

Combs

J.O. Combs Unified School District

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

**Ranch Elementary | Harmon Elementary | Simonton Elementary
Ellsworth Elementary | Combs Traditional Academy
J.O. Combs Middle School | Combs High School**



Ellsworth students and staff raise cancer awareness in October.

STV voters support J.O. Combs and pass the bond

Bond approval heralds many changes at Combs High School including a new auditorium

Alexis Williams
Student Journalist

Watching a school play in an auditorium.

Riding to school in a bus that won't break down.

Using computers that aren't as old as middle school students.

Though these may sound like things students can do any old day. They haven't been available to CHS students for some time, but will be soon. After one other failed attempt, a \$36.8 million bond has finally been approved by the San Tan Valley voters that live in the J.O. Combs Unified School District boundaries.

The approval brings with it many changes in and around the CHS campus and community.

"There will be an auditorium built near the bandroom," said principal Brooke Davis. "It will be a multipurpose auditorium, used all day long for different activities, there will be classroom space, presentation space, meeting space, [room for] performances and concerts. [In addition to the auditorium] our agriculture department will be receiving a land lab, where they can actually have classrooms and facilities built for their burgeoning programs that are growing."

Along with the new developments on the CHS campus, there will be some changes in technology and in school transportation.

"New school buses, new technology, and computers will be here at CHS," Davis said.

Teachers are optimistic that the improvements and additions will have other positive side effects.

"I hope that [the bond] will help with enrollment and

get more kids coming here, if we could offer [better technology] to them, and better books," social studies teacher Tiffanie Carlson said.

With all of these changes to the school district expectation and anticipation are already high.

The bond approval is already having a positive impact on community relations.

"I think [the bond passing] will help bring the community closer, I think it will connect the outside community members with the community of the school," math teacher Lydia Munoz said. "I think having that auditorium will help the community to rely on us and be able to communicate with us more."

While teachers and students see certain changes in the Combs District more important than others, there is one thing they all agree on.

"[The bond passing] is going to allow things to be built that the students need and want and [it will] increase pride in the school," Miller said.

PRESCHOOL NOW ENROLLING!

Combs

J.O. Combs Unified School District

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow



YOUNG COYOTES

Develop social, emotional, & academic skills

Ages 3–4 years old

Open 6:30am–6:00pm

Full and half day options available



KINDER PREP

Prepare for Kindergarten

Ages 4–5 years old

AM or PM Half day sessions

Can be combined with Young Coyotes for full day care

Now Enrolling!

2 LOCATIONS IN SAN TAN VALLEY

Ranch Elementary
43521 N. Kenworthy Rd.

Ellsworth Elementary
38454 N. Carolina Ave.

Visit our website at www.jocombs.org
Combs Community Education 480-987-5310

Creative Writing at CHS: balancing art and learning

Seniors only class moves students' artistic sensibilities away from the 'hobby' category

Jess Burnquist
CHS Creative Writing Teacher

Some things never change in Creative Writing class at CHS. For example, students who take the course must be seniors. Class size is typically small. Often, a student will sign up for the course thinking that it will be a laid back elective. He or she quickly finds out that that the opposite is true.

Course of Study

Creative Writing students explore various genres of writing. So far this year, students have written poetry, short stories, narratives, and a screen play. They have studied contemporary and classical writers from all over the world. One of the goals I have for my students is to learn how to develop their own styles and voices based on informed exposure to great literature.

I've been teaching Creative Writing at CHS since 2011. When I began as an English instructor here, I inherited a Creative Writing club that had about 5 members. As a teacher who holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Arizona State University, I didn't want students at CHS who shared a passion for the writing arts to feel marginalized or to have their artistic sensibilities placed under the category of 'hobby'. My second year at CHS, Creative Writing became an approved class for seniors. Currently, seniors can take the course as an elective or English credit depending on student need.

Community

Creative Writing students in the inaugural class at CHS suggested that they host an evening of poetry during Poetry in April in order to showcase their work. Thus began the tradition of CHS Poetry Night. The event has grown into a wonderful celebration of the writing of CHS students and members of the community.

Annual attendance at Poetry Night has grown each year and now features musicians and artists on campus and in the community as well. Students like to plan the event around a theme. This year's theme is "Chapters"—with an emphasis on the important chapters in our lives (such as graduation) and for the first time ever, Poetry Night will feature the CHS Dance and Arts Department for an artistic extravaganza. All students and members of the community are welcome. Besides hearing my student read their work on Poetry Night, my very favorite thing is seeing former students attend the event and often share their work with current students during the open mic portion of the

evening. These visits are the glue in the model of tradition we strive to create.

Poetry Night 2017 will be on Saturday, April 22, from 6-9 p.m. at the CHS cafeteria.

Admission is \$2.

Scholarship

Each year, students from around the United States participate in a poetry recitation competition known as Poetry Out Loud. Students must learn and recite 2 poems that the organization has approved. Students begin with classroom competition, and advance to school wide competition. The winner of the school competition advances to regionals. The winner of regionals advances to state. The state winner competes in Washington D.C. against students from every state in the nation for scholarship awards upwards of fifty thousand dollars. Learn more about Poetry Out Loud by visiting the national website: poetryoutloud.org.

CHS Creative Writing students are currently preparing for their classroom competitions. Their school wide competition will take place in January. The benefits of participation in this competition are immeasurable. Student confidence soars over being able to retain and perform the words of revered writers. An appreciation for language is deepened as well as student ability to speak in public. Best of all, I think, is watching students in my class ban together and form an incredible unit of support for one another through the process. I love how they show up for each other. Many of the students I taught five years ago and who forged friendships in my class still keep in touch and even share their current writing with one another—such a beautiful feeling.

Literary Arts Journal

Since its inception, the Creative Writing class has produced a platform to share student work. The first year, students coined the name IMPRINT for a journal that would feature student poetry, short stories, photography and artwork. They named the journal IMPRINT (the all caps is a tradition too!) to symbolize the artistic marks CHS students are making in the world. The first edition of IMPRINT was a shareable pdf. Now, it is a thriving website.

Visit: imprintaz.weebly.com

Submit: Either submit directly through the website or submit your poetry, short stories, non-fiction, visual art (jpeg), or moving art videos (youtube link) to cwimprint@gmail.com.



IMPRINT

IMPRINT is the Combs High School Literary Arts Magazine produced by Mrs. Burnquist's Creative Writing senior class.

Each year, the Creative Writing students put their stamp on IMPRINT. Some classes opt to have very traditional leadership roles for production. Others like to collaborate with fewer constraints. This year's crew has opted to form genre committees and appoint an editor-in-chief but they have also created new categories of focus such as Moving Arts—a page that features mini-performances by CHS students. They have also set the goal of seeking submissions in all genres from students beyond the immediate community. Later this year, students will collaborate with a class in Seattle, Washington and New York, New York.

Collaboration

While the course is currently only offered to seniors, members of the class lead and facilitate Creative Writing Club. Here, the seniors get to translate writing activities from class to the general population of juniors and underclassmen with an affinity for writing. It's always thrilling to hear from club members how excited they are to take the course once they become seniors. And, watching the collaboration between grade levels is a joy.

Many who love to write will also recognize the need for solitude or quiet space to mine

one's thoughts into a cohesive piece of writing. Creative Writing class at CHS is unique from the other English classes I teach in that I designate extended periods of time specifically for free writing. On any given day, my students can be found writing in their notebooks in a half-lit classroom with music playing. These free writing sessions are the foundation for the structured assignments and collaboration that is required as well. One thing I hope to never change or stop striving for in my course preparation is the precise balance of personal writing and collaboration in the course. I truly believe it is this balance that enables students to learn how to produce greatness together while also making important self-discoveries along the way.

Jess Burnquist was raised in Tempe, Arizona. She is a recipient of the Joan Frazier Memorial Award for the Arts at ASU as well as a Sylvan Silver Apple Award for teaching. Her work has appeared in The Washington Post, Time.com, NPR.org, Redbook Magazine, Good Housekeeping, Ed Week, Edutopia, and various other online and print journals. Her poetry chapbook You May Feel Your Way Past Me is forthcoming from Dancing Girl Press in the spring of 2017.

Social studies abound at Combs Middle School



WARM WELCOME

Sasha McCain greets Rep. Doug Coleman to the Social Studies Club at CMS.

Students to showcase social studies work at mock Congressional district hearing

Mark Mauro
CMS Principal

Combs Middle School students are involved in a number of Social Studies related activities this school year. At the beginning of the year, students formed a Social Studies Club on campus. At each student-led meeting, discussion takes place on a particular aspect of history and a particular aspect of geography. The club is making plans to attend the American Heritage Festival in Queen Creek in November. In September, students participated in a number of activities in their Social Studies classes surrounding the Constitution and the election process which included a visit from Arizona Representative Doug Coleman.

When asked if students were looking forward to the Representative's visit, Seth Fernandez (8th Grade Honors Student) responded, "I'm excited because I've never met a government official besides a cop." Students asked excellent questions to the Representative during his visit. Hayley Allen, 8th Grade Honors Student, asked: "Would you say that kids our age, such as middle school and high school, should really care about elections such as the presidential elections going

on right now?" Representative Coleman encouraged students to study the issues now so that they are ahead of the learning curve when they are of age to vote and know what's going on at the capital." One student asked the Representative if he liked his job to which he smiled and replied, "I do!"

In addition to these great activities, CMS students participated in a number of activities to celebrate our veterans and participated in the election process in November as well as getting involved with the We the People program in December.

We the People is an American government program sponsored by the Center for Civics Education. The program focuses on the evolution and function of the national government. Within the program, mock Congressional hearings occur at the high school level. The middle school teams do not formally compete in these hearings; they showcase their work and growth over the year. CMS is currently planning to organize a team to showcase their work during the mock Congressional district hearing taking place in December.

Combs, Banner Ironwood recognize Students of the Month

Character Counts Program helps guide choice of which students to name each month

The J.O. Combs Unified School District continues to partner with Banner Ironwood in a Student of the Month program which recognizes one student every month from each of our schools. There is a selection process in place where students are recognized for the various pillars of the Character Counts Program which include Responsibility, Trustworthiness, Citizenship, Caring, Respect and Fairness. This presentation takes place each month at our Regular Governing Board Meeting.

In September, the following students were recognized for demonstrating the character trait of Responsibility.

- Amya Bednarek, Combs High School, Grade 9
- Naryah Lipford, J.O. Combs Middle School, Grade 8
- Dario Turk, Combs Traditional Academy, Grade 2
- Zoe Linhares, Ellsworth Elementary, Grade 3
- Tatum Lord, Harmon Elementary, Grade 6
- Brayden Thompson, Ranch Elementary, Grade 6
- Alina Dawson, Simonton Elementary, Grade 5

In October, the following students were recognized for demonstrating the

character trait of Trustworthiness.

- Angelina Elrod, Combs High School, Grade 12
- Kylee Wiles, J.O. Combs Middle School, Grade 7
- Jayden Boyle, Combs Traditional Academy, Grade 1
- Abigail Brennan, Ellsworth Elementary, Grade 4
- Sanyah Lipford, Harmon Elementary, Grade 5
- Lilly Angle, Ranch Elementary, Grade 5
- Haylee Gonzales, Simonton Elementary, Grade 6

In November, the following students

were recognized for demonstrating the character trait of Citizenship.

- Ethan Santos, Combs High School, Grade 11
- Cannon Scrogam, J.O. Combs Middle School, Grade 8
- Victoria Yost, Combs Traditional Academy, Grade 5
- Payton Martz, Ellsworth Elementary, Grade 5
- Aryana Delpriore, Harmon Elementary, Grade 4
- Alexis Vakasiuola, Ranch Elementary, Grade 4
- Yahxa Castandea Leal, Simonton Elementary, Grade 1

Combs celebrates Esperanza Award winner, nominees

Ellsworth's teacher Iris Telfer one of four in state to win

Kelly Guerra
Community Education

Four teachers across the state of Arizona were selected for the 2016 Esperanza Latino Teacher Awards, and Combs is very proud that Iris Telfer from Ellsworth Elementary is one of those four. Two other Combs teachers, Brenda Bencomo from Ellsworth Elementary and Lydia Munoz from Combs High School, were also nominated.

Esperanza Award Winner Iris Telfer was inspired to become a special education teacher when her brother, suffering a learning disability, was told by a teacher that he wouldn't amount to anything. She has since made it her mission to ensure that every child feels empowered and valuable. She treats her students as individuals and works at home and on the weekends to ensure that she addresses every child's specific needs. She learned long ago that forming relationships with her students and focusing on their strengths allows her to capitalize on how they best learn and demonstrate learning.

Iris was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. of Honduran parents. When she was 18, her stepfather, who was the sole bread winner of the household of six, passed away unexpectedly. Devastated by the sudden death of her husband, Iris's mother suffered a major health crisis of her own resulting in Iris becoming the head of the household for her younger siblings. Although numerous friends and family members advised her to quit her studies and work full time to assist the family, Iris stayed true to her plan and took on the roles of parent and sole provider while earning her degree.

Mrs. Telfer is also community minded and coordinates the "Make A Difference Week" at Ellsworth Elementary, a campus-wide initiative teaching all students about the uniqueness, likenesses and differences of their peers receiving special education services. Iris Telfer's outstanding impact as a Special Education teacher at Ellsworth Elementary stems from her compassion and willingness to work tirelessly for her students.

Nominee Lydia Munoz knows that for many of the Combs High School students in her classroom, learning math is not the top priority for them on any given day. She has always enjoyed learning mathematics and about the mathematicians that discovered the patterns that we now hold as truths. When a student walks through the door to Lydia's classroom, they are expected to become mathematicians. There are times that Lydia will "flip" her classroom and assign students a topic to learn and practice with hints around the classroom to guide students. She believes this fosters an individual connection to the group, and a group connection to the whole class. Ultimately, she wants to open students' minds to the world.

Lydia's paternal grandfather was born and raised in Honduras and moved to the United States when he was 25. At age 14, Lydia and her family returned to Honduras

and reunited with family members, and she noticed the Honduran culture held a greater focus on people and less on things. When Lydia was 18 years old, she again returned to Honduras as part of a mission trip with members from her church to build a school building for Hurricane Mitch survivors. Witnessing their gratitude and appreciation for education inspired Lydia to go into education with the desire to rekindle that spark and appreciation in American students.

As a result, Lydia builds personal relationships with her students and is mindful that she is not always aware of the hardships her students are enduring each day. Students often come to Lydia to share their stories because they know that she cares and has opened that door of communication.

Nominee Brenda Bencomo has been a public education teacher for over 15 years and began teaching 2nd grade in the J.O. Combs Unified School District in 2007. She is a compassionate and gifted educator who is dedicated to being the best possible teacher for her students. She believes every student can learn and strives to ensure that all students realize their potential. She is able to turn even the most reluctant student into a lifetime learner. Brenda's passion for knowledge and strong commitment to helping others was ingrained in her from an early age by her parents.

Brenda grew up in a low income family and learned English as a second language when she began elementary school. While Brenda's parents were very supporting of her education, they spoke limited English and the language barrier presented a challenge. As the oldest of five children, she assisted with translating for her parents at parent teacher conferences and doctor's appointments. Her parents taught her from an early age that she could do anything she set her mind to and encouraged her to never settle for less than you deserve. This support and encouragement led to Brenda being the first in her family



WINNER

Iris Telfer, Esperanza Award Winner, with Dr. Jane Rupard, Director of Special Education.

to graduate from high school and college.

Seen as a campus leader, Brenda is often approached by teachers for suggestions on instructional strategies for not only English Language Learner students but all students. She is patient and kind to everyone in need and always offers assistance without hesitation. Brenda's focus is always on what is best for students.

Combs is proud to have amazing teachers such as these three highlighted. Iris, Lydia and Brenda were also recognized at the November Governing Board Meeting. Their dedication and professionalism is what makes a difference in the lives of students, staff, and families.



NOMINEE

Brenda Bencomo, Esperanza Award Nominee, with Santa Dunker, Coordinator of Curriculum and Instruction.



NOMINEE

Lydia Munoz, Esperanza Award Nominee, with Cinthia Andrews, Combs High School Teacher.



IN SERVICE

Students inducted into Harmon Elementary's Honor Society are learning about community service.

National Elementary Honor Society at Harmon Elementary

NEHS helps prepare students for NJHS and NHS

Angela Beauchene
Harmon Elementary Principal

Harmon Elementary hosted their inaugural induction ceremony into the National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) on May 16th, 2016. Harmon's National Elementary Honor Society not only enhances the school's culture of academic achievement, it also shows students the importance of service and personal responsibility.

NEHS recognizes students who excel academically and model exceptional responsibility while preparing students for middle and high school experiences, building in them responsibility, leadership and service. Students

in grades 4-6 who meet the requirements are eligible for membership. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average each quarter, volunteer ten hours of their time to community service projects during the school year and demonstrate good character.

Harmon students who pledge their commitment to upholding the core values of NEHS have volunteered their time to assist with various activities on the campus as well as in the community. Some of the activities include assisting special needs students during the Special Olympics day at Harmon, cleaning the Harmon desert garden, volunteering time at the local San Tan Valley San Tan Valley Farmers Market, and assisting with the Turkey Waddle on Thanksgiving morning.

Each spring, students selected to participate are inducted into the program with a special candle lighting ceremony. As a part of this ceremony, the importance of the core values of scholarship, responsibility, leadership and service are emphasized and all students recite a

pledge to uphold these values.

Sponsors Mrs. Smith, Miss Grinde, and Mrs. Barquera meet with students throughout the school year to discuss volunteer projects and complete grade checks. "NEHS is a wonderful stepping stone for students who want to pursue membership in the National Junior Honor Society at Combs Middle School and the National Honor Society at Combs High School," states sponsor Mrs. Smith.

NEHS is a program of the National Association of Secondary School Principals in partnership with the NAESP (National Association of Elementary School Principals) Foundation.

Members of the Harmon NEHS include Avery Nieto, Emma Abreu, Noah Smith, Charley Vigneux, Andrea Bell, Emma Avelar, Robert Leon Gomez, Jaunte Hughes, Joslyn Sagote, Hayley Tibben, Joshua Gonzalez, Gianna Garibaldi, Sarah Phan, Christian Tillard, Kylie Meitner, Tatum Lord, Kaylyn Tibben, Adrian Varela Rivera, Kyler Cooper, Elizabeth Gahm, Raquel Domarad.

JACK W. HARMON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



At Jack W. Harmon Elementary School, we take pride in providing a safe, nurturing environment where children may grow and learn. Our dedicated staff strives to engage each child in expanding the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed. We stress growth, individual responsibility, and problem solving in a collaborative effort among students, parents, educators, and the community. Education is most effective when it is supported by a team effort.



39315 N. Cortona Dr., San Tan Valley • Harmon.JOCombs.org • 480-882-3500

ELLSWORTH Elementary School



**Whatever
It Takes!**

**Annual College & Career
Fair, Multicultural Event
and Talent Show
Battle of the Books
Character Education
Counseling Services
Spelling Bee Competitions
Student Council**

At Ellsworth Elementary we pride ourselves on providing a safe and caring environment for all students. We believe we have the best teachers and staff in Arizona. They care about the academic and social growth of our students. As a neighborhood school, parents and teachers work together for the personal success of our students.

In addition, we are educating and instilling personal qualities, such as: respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, citizenship and caring.

Ellsworth Eagles are our future leaders!

**38454 N. Carolina Ave., San Tan Valley
Ellsworth.JOCombs.org • 480-882-3520**

Combs Traditional Academy sets the standard

Combs Traditional Academy is highest performing school in Pinal County on AzMERIT

Marcus Berkshire
CTA Principal

Each spring, students in 3rd through 12th grades take the AzMERIT test in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

Students are assessed on their proficiency with state standards in both content areas and results are shared with

schools and the community in the fall. Combs Traditional Academy, a “back-to-basics” school of choice in the J.O. Combs Unified School District in San Tan Valley, once again earned high marks in student proficiency on the assessment.

Overall, Combs Traditional Academy was the highest performing school in Pinal County, outperforming all other District and Charter Schools. Seventy-one percent of the 3rd-6th graders at Combs Traditional Academy passed

English Language Arts (ELA) and 70% passed Mathematics, compared to the county average of 28% passing ELA and 29% passing Mathematics. Additionally, the 4th grade cohort from Combs Traditional Academy had 87% of students pass the English Language Arts test, which placed them as the 14th highest rated cohort in the state of Arizona.

When asked to describe why the school has found so much success, Principal,



TEACHING STANDARDS

Ms. Nino's 4th grade class uses journals to respond to informational text.

for excellence in Pinal

Mr. Marcus Berkshire, attributed it to the dedication of the families, students, and staff of the school. "We have been fortunate to have veteran teachers working with our children who are able to meet our students where they are and take them to where they need to be. Our strength lies in our small school environment that focuses on Rigor, Responsibility, and Respect and the collaboration between parents and teachers."

Families interested in enrolling their children at Combs Traditional Academy can contact the school at (480) 987-5320 to schedule a school tour. The school offers free bus transportation throughout the district boundaries, including Ironwood Crossing, Pecan Creek, Castlegate, and other subdivisions along the Ironwood corridor, and into the Circle Cross Ranch, Rancho Bella Vista South, and San Tan Heights subdivisions.



LEARNING TOGETHER

CTA students work together to solve complicated math problems.

Combs Traditional Academy

37372 N. Gantzel Rd.
San Tan Valley
CombsTraditional.JOCombs.org
480-987-5320



Art Mastepiece • Character Education
Knight Ambassadors
Small School Environment • Uniforms
Accelerated Curriculum
Saxon Math • Socratic Seminars
Spalding Method
National Elementary Honor Society

Combs Traditional Academy is a school of choice. What makes us unique is our "Back-to-Basics" philosophy; we view the acquisition of basic skills, primarily through direct instruction, as the foundation of the learning process. We prioritize the fundamental tools of learning in the core academic areas of phonics and reading, grammar, spelling and writing, mathematics, history and geography, and science.

At Combs Traditional Academy, our students learn in a structured environment that minimizes instructional distractions in order to provide them with the strongest opportunity for academic and lifelong success.

Rigor, Responsibility, Respect

SIMONTON ELEMENTARY

We LEAD - Learn,, Empower, Achieve and Dream



A
Leader in Me™
School

Featuring:

- **7 Habits Education**
- **Cool Student Clubs:**
Art, Garden, Journalism,
Patriotism *and* Robotics
- **Student Council**

40300 N. Simonton Blvd., San Tan Valley
Simonton.JOCombs.org • 480-987-5330

GIRLS' VARSITY SOCCER

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 17	MESQUITE (SCRIM)	AWAY	6:30
NOV. 22	WALDEN GROVE	HOME	6:00
NOV. 29	POSTON BUTTE	AWAY	6:00
DEC. 1	TOURNAMENT	TBA	6:00
DEC. 6	SUNRISE MOUNTAIN	AWAY	6:00
DEC. 8	MARCOS DE NIZA	HOME	6:00
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE	AWAY	6:00
DEC. 15	SAGUARO	HOME	6:00
JAN. 10	SETON	HOME	6:00
JAN. 12	DYSART	AWAY	6:00
JAN. 17	CORTEZ	AWAY	6:00
JAN. 19	CORONADO	HOME	6:00
JAN. 24	WASHINGTON	HOME	6:00
JAN. 26	APACHE JUNCTION	AWAY	6:00

GIRLS' JV SOCCER

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 22	WALDEN GROVE	HOME	4:00
NOV. 29	POSTON BUTTE	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 6	SUNRISE MOUNTAIN	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 8	MARCOS DE NIZA	HOME	4:00
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 15	SAGUARO	HOME	4:00
JAN. 10	SETON	HOME	4:00
JAN. 12	DYSART	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 17	CORTEZ	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 19	CORONADO	HOME	4:00
JAN. 24	WASHINGTON	HOME	4:00
JAN. 26	APACHE JUNCTION	AWAY	4:00

BOYS' VARSITY SOCCER

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 17	MESQUITE (SCRIM)	AWAY	4:30
NOV. 22	WALDEN GROVE	AWAY	6:00
NOV. 29	POSTON BUTTE	HOME	6:00
DEC. 1	TOURNAMENT	TBA	8:00
DEC. 6	SUNRISE	HOME	6:00
DEC. 8	MARCOS DE NIZA	AWAY	6:00
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE	HOME	6:00
DEC. 15	SAGUARO	AWAY	6:00
JAN. 10	SETON	AWAY	6:00
JAN. 12	DYSART	HOME	6:00
JAN. 17	CORTEZ	HOME	6:00
JAN. 19	CORONADO	AWAY	6:00
JAN. 24	WASHINGTON	AWAY	6:00
JAN. 26	APACHE JUNCTION	HOME	6:00

BOYS' JV SOCCER

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 22	WALDEN GROVE	AWAY	4:00
NOV. 29	POSTON BUTTE	HOME	4:00
DEC. 6	SUNRISE	HOME	4:00
DEC. 8	MARCOS DE NIZA	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE	HOME	4:00
DEC. 15	SAGUARO	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 10	SETON	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 12	DYSART	HOME	4:00
JAN. 17	CORTEZ	HOME	4:00
JAN. 19	CORONADO	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 24	WASHINGTON	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 26	APACHE JUNCTION	HOME	4:00

Combs H

VARSITY WRESTL

DATE	OPPONENT
NOV. 22	WASHINGTON/
NOV. 30	FLORENCE/DYS
DEC. 2-3	NATE JOHNSON
DEC. 7	MARCOS/ALA/AJ
DEC. 9-10	PUMA DUALS
DEC. 14	GREENWAY/CO
DEC. 20	SETON CATHOL
	THUNDERBIRD/
JAN. 11	CASA GRANDE/
JAN. 13-14	AJ TOURNAMEN
JAN. 18	POSTON BUTTE
JAN. 21	FIREBIRD INVIT
JAN. 25	CAMPO VERDE/
FEB. 4	SECTIONAL CHA
FEB. 9-10	STATE CHAMPIC

JV WRESTLING

DATE	OPPONENT
NOV. 22	WASHINGTON/
NOV. 26	JOHN CARLSON
NOV. 28	BIG 15
NOV. 30	FLORENCE/DYS
DEC. 7	MARCOS/ALA/A
DEC. 20	SETON/THUND
JAN. 11	CASA GRANDE/
JAN. 18	POSTON BUTTE
JAN. 25	CAMPO VERDE/
JAN. 28	BIG 15

FRESHMAN WRES

DATE	OPPONENT
NOV. 26	JOHN CARLSON
JAN. 17	NOTRE DAME/P
	WILLIAMS FIELD
JAN. 28	BIG 15

GIRLS' VARSITY I

DATE	OPPONENT
NOV. 22	ST. MARY'S
NOV. 29	SAGUARO
DEC. 1	MARCOS DE NIZ
DEC. 6	TEMPE
DEC. 8	HIGLEY
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE
DEC. 14	DYSART
DEC. 15	METRO TECH
DEC. 19	TOURNAMENT
JAN. 10	CORONADO
JAN. 12	WASHINGTON
JAN. 13	CORTEZ
JAN. 17	APACHE JUNCT
JAN. 19	DYSART
JAN. 20	THUNDERBIRD
JAN. 24	CORTEZ
JAN. 26	CORONADO
JAN. 31	WASHINGTON
FEB. 2	APACHE JUNCT

J.O. Combs Midd

Jan. 26 @ Maricopa Wells 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 31 vs. Hohokam 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 7 vs. Benjamin Franklin QC 4:30 p.m.

High School Winter Sports Schedules

ING

	SITE	TIME
PAYSON	HOME	4:00
ART/CHANDLER PREP	HOME	4:00
TOURNAMENT	RED MOUNTAIN	TBA
	MARCOS	4:00
	PERRY	TBA
	GREENWAY	4:00
ORTEZ		
IC/		
MCCLINTOCK	HOME	2:00
MOON VALLEY	CASA GRANDE	4:00
IT	AJ	TBA
/AJ	HOME	4:00
TIONAL	CHAPARRAL	TBA
SETON CATHOLIC	CAMPO VERDE	4:00
AMPIONSHIPS	TBA	TBA
ONSHIPS	PVEC	TBA

	SITE	TIME
PAYSON	HOME	4:00
TOURNAMENT	PERRY	TBA
	MESQUITE	TBA
ART/CHANDLER PREP	HOME	4:00
	MARCOS	4:00
ERBIRD/MCCLINTOCK	HOME	2:00
MOON VALLEY	CASA GRANDE	4:00
/AJ	HOME	4:00
SETON CATHOLIC	CAMPO VERDE	4:00
	MESQUITE	TBA

STLING

	SITE	TIME
TOURNAMENT	PERRY	TBA
BOSTON BUTTE/		
	NOTRE DAME	4:00
	MESQUITE	TBA

BASKETBALL

	SITE	TIME
	HOME	7:00
	AWAY	7:00
ZA	HOME	7:00
	AWAY	7:00
	AWAY	7:00
	HOME	7:00
	AWAY	7:00
	HOME	7:00
	TBA	TBA
	HOME	7:00
	HOME	7:00
ION	AWAY	7:00
	AWAY	7:00
	HOME	7:00
	AWAY	7:00
	HOME	7:00
	AWAY	7:00
ION	HOME	7:00

GIRLS' JV BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 22	ST. MARY'S	HOME	5:30
NOV. 29	SAGUARO	AWAY	5:30
DEC. 1	MARCOS DE NIZA	HOME	5:30
DEC. 6	TEMPE	AWAY	5:30
DEC. 8	HIGLEY	AWAY	5:30
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE	HOME	5:30
DEC. 14	DYSART	AWAY	5:30
DEC. 15	METRO TECH	HOME	5:30
JAN. 10	CORONADO	HOME	5:30
JAN. 12	WASHINGTON	HOME	5:30
JAN. 13	CORTEZ	AWAY	5:30
JAN. 17	APACHE JUNCTION	AWAY	5:30
JAN. 19	DYSART	HOME	5:30
JAN. 20	THUNDERBIRD	AWAY	5:30
JAN. 24	CORTEZ	HOME	5:30
JAN. 26	CORONADO	AWAY	5:30
JAN. 31	WASHINGTON	AWAY	5:30
FEB. 2	APACHE JUNCTION	HOME	5:30

GIRLS' FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 22	ST. MARY'S	HOME	4:00
NOV. 29	SAGUARO	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 1	MARCOS DE NIZA	HOME	4:00
DEC. 6	TEMPE	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 8	HIGLEY	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE	HOME	4:00
DEC. 14	DYSART	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 15	METRO TECH	HOME	4:00
JAN. 10	CORONADO	HOME	4:00
JAN. 12	WASHINGTON	HOME	4:00
JAN. 13	CORTEZ	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 17	APACHE JUNCTION	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 19	DYSART	HOME	4:00
JAN. 20	THUNDERBIRD	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 24	CORTEZ	HOME	4:00
JAN. 26	CORONADO	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 31	WASHINGTON	AWAY	4:00
FEB. 2	APACHE JUNCTION	HOME	4:00

BOYS' VARSITY BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 29	SAGUARO	HOME	7:00
DEC. 1	MARCOS DE NIZA	AWAY	7:00
DEC. 6	TEMPE	HOME	7:00
DEC. 8	HIGLEY	HOME	7:00
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE	AWAY	7:00
DEC. 14	DYSART	HOME	7:00
DEC. 15	METRO TECH	AWAY	7:00
DEC. 17	APACHE JUNCTION	AWAY	7:00
DEC. 26	TOURNAMENT	TBA	TBA
JAN. 10	CORONADO	AWAY	7:00
JAN. 12	WASHINGTON	AWAY	7:00
JAN. 13	CORTEZ	HOME	7:00
JAN. 19	DYSART	AWAY	7:00
JAN. 20	THUNDERBIRD	HOME	7:00
JAN. 24	CORTEZ	AWAY	7:00
JAN. 26	CORONADO	HOME	7:00
JAN. 31	WASHINGTON	HOME	7:00
FEB. 2	APACHE JUNCTION	AWAY	7:00

BOYS' JV BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 29	SAGUARO	HOME	5:30
DEC. 1	MARCOS DE NIZA	AWAY	5:30
DEC. 6	TEMPE	HOME	5:30
DEC. 8	HIGLEY	HOME	5:30
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE	AWAY	5:30
DEC. 15	METRO TECH	AWAY	5:30
DEC. 19	DYSART	HOME	5:30
JAN. 10	CORONADO	AWAY	5:30
JAN. 12	WASHINGTON	AWAY	5:30
JAN. 13	CORTEZ	HOME	5:30
JAN. 17	APACHE JUNCTION	HOME	5:30
JAN. 19	DYSART	AWAY	5:30
JAN. 20	THUNDERBIRD	HOME	5:30
JAN. 24	CORTEZ	AWAY	5:30
JAN. 26	CORONADO	HOME	5:30
JAN. 31	WASHINGTON	HOME	5:30
FEB. 2	APACHE JUNCTION	AWAY	5:30

BOYS' FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 29	SAGUARO	HOME	4:00
DEC. 1	MARCOS DE NIZA	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 2	CASTEEL	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 6	TEMPE	HOME	4:00
DEC. 8	HIGLEY	HOME	4:00
DEC. 13	CASA GRANDE	AWAY	4:00
DEC. 14	DYSART	HOME	4:00
DEC. 15	METRO TECH	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 3	GLOBE	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 10	CORONADO	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 12	WASHINGTON	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 13	CORTEZ	HOME	4:00
JAN. 17	APACHE JUNCTION	HOME	4:00
JAN. 19	DYSART	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 20	THUNDERBIRD	HOME	4:00
JAN. 24	CORTEZ	AWAY	4:00
JAN. 26	CORONADO	HOME	4:00
JAN. 31	WASHINGTON	HOME	4:00
FEB. 2	APACHE JUNCTION	AWAY	4:00



Photo by Student Photographer Sam Higgs

iddle School Girls Basketball *and* Cheerleading

Feb. 9 vs. Cactus Canyon 4:30 p.m.
 Feb. 14 vs. Maricopa Wells 4:30 p.m.
 Feb. 16 @ Hohokam 4:30 p.m.

Feb. 23 @ Benjamin Franklin QC 4:30 p.m.
 Feb. 28 @ Cactus Canyon 4:30 p.m.

Ranch Elementary

43521 N. Kenworthy Rd.
San Tan Valley



Ranch.JOCombs.org
480-882-3530



Offering:

English Language Arts
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WORKING TOGETHER

Students and volunteers work side by side to plant a sustainable garden.

Students partner with design group to build sustainable garden

Ranch Elementary sixth graders learn firsthand about community service and environment

Sixth grade students at Ranch Elementary partnered with the design firm DLR Group and McCarthy Building Companies for the Green Apple Day of Service on Nov. 12 and built a sustainable garden. Students have been learning about environmental sustainability and building the garden provided a hands on opportunity to participate in a project.

According to Premnath Sundharam, Global Sustainability Leader for DLR Group, "As an interdisciplinary design firm, DLR Group | Westlake Reed Leskosky is committed to bringing forth innovative and sustainable designs. The Green Apple Day of Service provides an opportunity to educate the community about the importance of sustainable practices in our environment, as well as be able to service our community."

Leading up to the event, 6th graders planted flowers in egg containers in the classroom to see how they grow and

adapt to their environment and started their own potted garden. "This project builds off several standards in the science curriculum, as well as coincides with our literature study of The Secret Garden," shares Ranch 6th grade teacher Mrs. Jackie Cross.

Student Marissa Thomas was ready to start the project early that morning. "Having a green source to help stop pollution in the air is a great thing. I've always loved planting, pulling weeds, and just working in the garden."

She also shared that younger students will use the garden for activities such as measuring the growth and graphing the plants' progress. Some of the items planted include squash, tomatoes, and edamame so students can enjoy the "fruits" of their labor.

Principal Sue Kruse said that she appreciated this great partnership and looks forward to other opportunities in the future.



For more updates around the district, make sure to follow the San Tan Valley PRSS
Facebook: [SanTanValleyDailyPRSS](#)
Twitter: [@STVDailyPRSS](#)

Combs students honor veterans

Students say thank you to those who served

Kelly Guerra
Community Education

Students across the J.O. Combs Unified School District honored Veterans on November 10th with breakfasts, assemblies, and ceremonies.

Combs High School TV and Production students created and aired a special Rundown video titled "Tribute to our Veterans" featuring staff members who have served in the military or who had family members who served. Students concluded the video with thank you messages to veterans.

CHS student Kody Kilgore shared, "I have a lot of family members in the military and Veterans Day means a lot to me and my family. I'd like to say thank you to all the veterans who have ever served in our military."

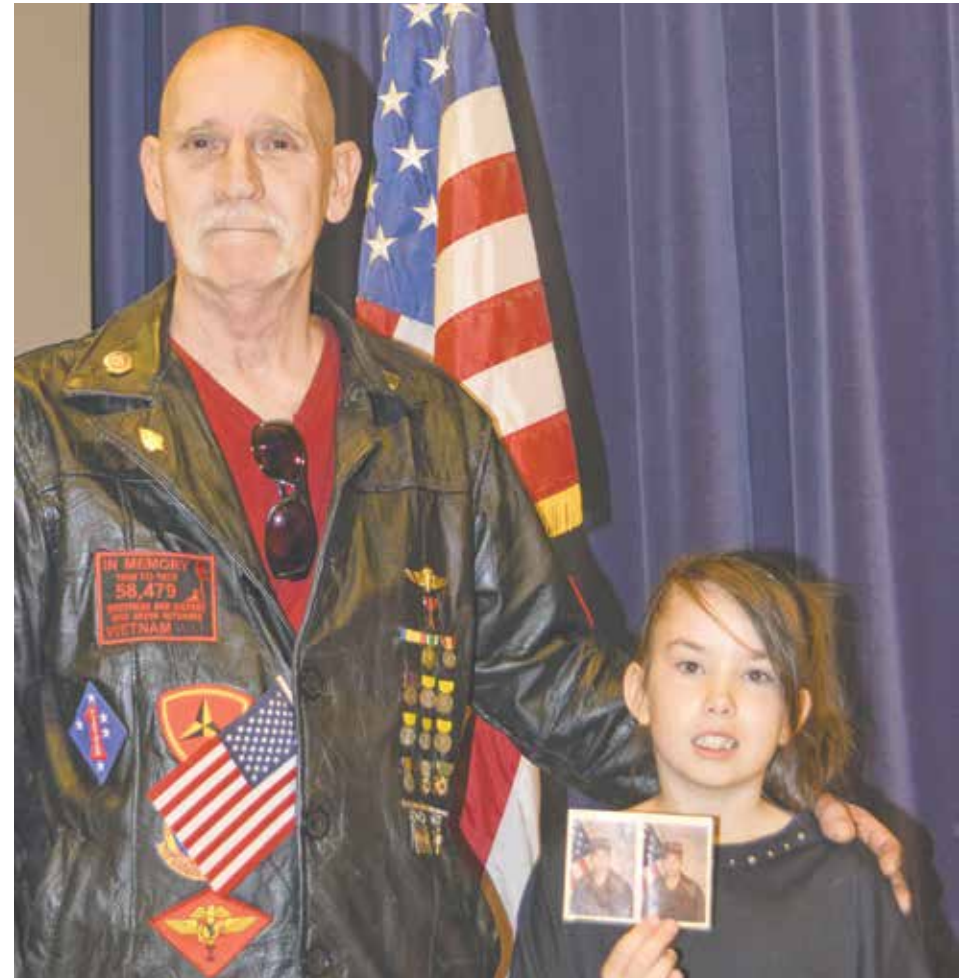
Combs Middle School students invited veterans to breakfast and were treated to patriotic songs and speeches. Art students created a number of posters and thank you

hearts that were displayed throughout the cafeteria.

Combs Traditional Academy began their day with students and families gathering around the flag pole for a flag raising ceremony, the Star Spangled Banner performed by students Jessica Valdez, Samantha Bourland and Shelby Walag.

Ranch Elementary, Harmon Elementary, Simonton Elementary, and Ellsworth Elementary each held school-wide assemblies with guest speakers and performances. The Combs High School ROTC presented the colors at many elementary sites, and veterans were asked to stand or were brought on stage to be recognized for their service.

"I was honored to be with my granddaughter on Veterans Day," says Retired Marine Donald Desimone about attending the ceremony at Simonton Elementary.



RESPECT

Combs Traditional Academy students observed the raising of the flag and recited the pledge.



GRANDFATHER

Retired Marine Donald Desimone and granddaughter Destiny Larson celebrated at Simonton Elementary.



SPEAKING UP

CMS Students Hayley Allen, Tawny Johnson, and Laine Wise celebrated Veterans Day with speeches.





SCHOOL PRIDE

CHS student Nathan Jacobs and Douglas Geng proudly show off the A+ School of Excellence banner.

Combs High School is an A+ School of Excellence

School honored for its strong foundation in teaching, learning and accountability

Kelly Guerra
Community Education

In April 2016, Combs High School students and staff received notification they were awarded the 2016 A+ School of Excellence from the Arizona Educational Foundation (AEF).

This prestigious award was given to only 40 schools statewide. Schools are selected after an extensive evaluation process including an application and site visits.

Brooke Davis, Principal, said, "For Combs High School, being awarded the A+ School of Excellence means we have developed a strong foundation for teaching,

learning, and accountability. It drives what we do every day for a constant cycle of improvement."

"I'm truly proud of the students, staff, and administration at Combs High School," states Dr. Gayle Blanchard, Superintendent. "This is such an accomplishment as Combs High School opened just a few years ago."

Combs High School received \$500 and an A+ School of Excellence banner. In addition, all staff are eligible for partial scholarships from Argosy University Phoenix.



J.O. COMBS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Honors Classes – English Language Arts, Math, Science & Social Studies
Career & Technical Education • High School Credit Options in Algebra & Spanish

Electives – Art, Physical Education, Spanish & Yearbook

Music – Band, Choir, Guitar & Orchestra • Competitive Sports • Tutoring

Student Clubs – Aerospace Challenge, Chess, Drama, Student Council, Yearbook, National Junior Art Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, Journalism Club, Social Studies Club



Students are asked to connect throughout the school year in three important ways: with one another, with their teachers, and with the knowledge that they are gaining each day. This also exists with a focus on character by reflecting on the six Character Counts pillars of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

COUGARS CONNECTING WITH CHARACTER

37611 N. Pecan Creek Dr., San Tan Valley • CombsMS.JOCombs.org • 480-882-3510

Hours and hours of rehearsal pays off for Combs High School Marching Coyote Regiment

Looking to the past, present and future of band students

J.J. Mixdorf
CHS Band Director

In June, Combs High School students started to craft their 2016 marching band program entitled "God Only Knows," which features that song by the Beach Boys in addition to additional music composed by San Tan Valley resident, Travis Larson.

The idea behind the show was to look at the past, the present, and the future of the band students. The hope was that by the end of the third production, 'God Only Knows,' the audience would feel a sense of nostalgia, hope, and sentimentality from

the performance.

The band has worked hard this year to make this show spectacular. By the end of the competitive season, the band has learned, tweaked, and perfected this show over a period of five months.

Grueling summer, evening and weekend rehearsals equaling roughly 200-300 hours of practice time was worth it.

The Combs High School Marching Coyote Regiment received the bronze medal at both the Arizona Band and Orchestra Director's Association (ABODA) State Marching Band Championships and the Arizona Marching Band Association (AzM-

BA) Championships.

This is a school record for the MCR. While the band has qualified for the State Championship for the last five years, this is the first time they have ever had a podium finish.

In addition to their competitions, the MCR performed at the home football games, marched in a Veterans Day parade at Canyon Vistas RV Park for a wonderful group of veterans, and they will be marching in the Queen Creek Holiday Parade and the Loop of Lights.

It is important for the students to experience and participate in these important local events in order to give back to the community that supports them. In the spring semester, the band students will switch gears to concert band, where they hone their craft, audition for honor bands, and participate in adjudicated concert festivals.

For the Combs Band Program, this is the beginning of a tradition of excellence that will continue for years to come.



HARD WORK PAYS OFF

Combs High School has an award winning marching band. Students put in 200-300 hours of practice over the summer, evenings and weekends



Local businesses, CTE classes explore collaboration



COMMUNITY TO SCHOOL

Local business owners and community members were invited to Combs to learn more about CTE programs.

FOR RENT

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Combs
J.O. Combs Unified School District
Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

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Or visit www.jocombs.org
Click on "Rent Our Facilities" Button

Business owners learn more about Career and Technical Education classes offered at Combs High School

Velvet Wahl
Student Journalist

Local business owners convened at Combs High School, hoping to partner with Career and Technical Education (C.T.E.) classes the school offers. The event was hosted by J.O. Combs Superintendent Gayle Blanchard, C.T.E. Department Coordinator John Scrogam, and Community Education Coordinator Kelly Guerra.

As the event began, attendees from around the Valley gathered in the CHS library to watch a video on students impact on the economy once they graduate from high school, then an overview of C.T.E. programs was delivered by Scrogam.

"It was so informative but it's also really exciting, that's probably the biggest thing I'm feeling right now," Sarai Case said. "I had no idea that the programs existed here and I think that there's so much potential for interaction multi generationally in our community (through C.T.E.)."

Next, attendees went on a tour of the C.T.E. facilities and programs offered. One thing that many attendees noticed was how the programs have evolved over the years.

"I think back to when I graduated high school, there was nothing really like this. They taught you the book knowledge, and as far as it went teaching you a job or a skill, it was still book knowledge. It wasn't hands on," Case said. "You didn't actually practice working with a patient and you didn't actually get to handle the cameras that you might handle later on. It was all just out of the reach of the school system. So that's a huge asset to students today that I think will change our society if we continue down that road."

Technical theater teacher Nicholas Smith, early childhood education teacher Alice Goodrick, computer graphics teacher Paul Schreel and C.T.E. department chair Brian Taylor sat down with attendees and talked about the programs offered and the many ways locals could help the students. "Obviously in any classroom you get just

the basics. When you get outside, that's when you really see everything else and you get to enhance what you learned inside the classroom," James Stewart said. "Because you guys are doing things hands on other than just sitting down in a classroom and taking a test, it makes the transition easier for you guys when you get into the workforce."

Some people saw the benefits of partnering with the school for C.T.E. classes.

"They see what actually has to happen; for hands on people in the industry whether it be someone teaching or doing masonry, [students] learn from people who are involved in it," Mike Summers said. "It'll get them on the right road, and then they have to decide on where they're going with that, what level they're going to take."

More so than your general ed courses, C.T.E. programs are meant to prepare students for placement in the workforce in addition to post secondary schooling and life after high school.

"Whether it's putting their ads on craigslist or trying local businesses, going to work freelancing for chambers," David Malton said. "It's a fantastic way for them to have a career that they can actually make a living without going to college, because we're an age in demand and it's going to be in demand forever now with all the websites. It's never going to go away. So I think it's fantastic."

CTE classes, like medical professions, aim to make the transition from high school to the students profession of choice easier.

"There's three educations in life. The first one is what your parents teach you, the second one is what you get through school, and then the third one contradicts everything that the first two educations teach you: the real world," Jimmy Parent said. "CTE is as close as you can get to a segue, the closest you can get to a transition. I think all students should participate in CTE in one way, shape or form."

Combs students getting CPR certified

CPR certification prepares students for saving lives on and off the campus

Taylor Cochran
Student Journalist

“Getting CPR certified affected the way I look at an emergency. I now feel more useful so if there really was a situation where someone needed help I’ll know what to do,” first year medical profession student, Gianna Brown said.

Students from the Medical Professions, Sports Medicine, and Early Childhood Education programs recently earned their CPR certification, from Heart Savers Inc., preparing them to save the lives of those on and off campus.

“Being able to help save a life in any situation is a good thing,” Principal Brooke Davis said. “This certification may be needed at home, church, a store, restaurant or one of hundreds of other community based places.”

CPR is a life saving technique used to restart the heart or keep a person alive and stable in an emergency situation. CPR can also be used on someone until authorities arrive.

“Our nurse can run and get to the gym if

someone is having a cardiac emergency, but the quickest response is the people in the space,” Davis said. “She’ll run, and she’ll get to where she needs to go, and we as administrators will run, but those vital seconds of the first initial incident are super important for someone to step in and begin those basics.”

CPR is a certification that you never know if or when it will come in handy.

“I fished in Alaska for 21 years... I’ve had to use it on the boat several times,” Kishpaugh said. “It’s helped me all the way through my work”

Not only can students help a student in distress they can also add the certification to their resume or job application.

“Students who are looking for jobs should highlight any certifications they have,” Davis said. “In a competitive job market, it might be the difference for one of our students to get a job over another person.”

Equally as impressive as the certification is the way the Medical Professions



PRACTICING

Combs High School students practice skills learned in CPR certification class.

program is impacting the lives of its students.

“As a student at Combs, I was one of the worst kids freshman year, and I [have] hope that when people see me doing my best and getting certified [it] is hope to

them to never give up on their dreams,” Brown said.

Students interested in getting CPR certified or any other first aid classes can click the link below to schedule their class: heartsaversinc.com/

CMS wins 2016 baseball tournament championship

Team finishes season seeded #1 with 9-1 record



Laura Ridge
CMS Dean of Students

Congratulations to the 2016 Combs Middle School baseball team for winning



WINNING TEAM

The winning team includes from left: back, Mr. Thomas, D. J. Mathus, Tim Johnson, Levi Tuckfield, Parker Sigety, Christian Chavez, Isaiah Voza, Arthur Vasquez, Mr. Mills; front, Luke Larson, Michael Davenport, Pierce Rogers, Brendan Mendoza, Camryn Gutierrez, Trip Rasmussen, Masyn Baker, Tyler Savage

the Desert Middle School League Tournament Championship 2-0 defeating Cactus Canyon Junior High of Apache Junction.

To reach the finals of the tournament, CMS overcame a 7-1 deficit to defeat Ben Franklin Queen Creek in their semi-final game by a score of 10-7 and advance to the finals.

In addition to winning the tournament championship, the Cougars finished the regular season as the #1 seed with a 9-1 regular season record.

The middle school community would like to congratulate Head Coach David Mills and his athletes for their tremendous success this season!

J.O. Combs Calendar of Community Events

Dec. 10, 2016

Polarfest
@ CMS
11 a.m. to
5 p.m.

Dec. 12, 2016

Orchestra
Concert
@ CMS
6-7:30 p.m.

Dec. 13, 2016

Harmon & CTA
Band Concert
@ Harmon
6-7:30 p.m.

Dec. 14, 2016

Governing
Board Mtg.
@ CMS
6 p.m.

Dec. 15, 2016

Ranch Orchestra
Concert
@ Ranch Elem.
6-7:30 p.m.

Jan. 4, 2017

College &
Vendor Fair
@ CHS
12:30-1:30 p.m.

Jan. 11, 2017

Governing
Board Mtg.
@ CMS
6 p.m.

Jan. 12, 2017

1st Things 1st
Fun Van
@ District Office
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Jan. 14, 2017

STV Farmers
Market
@ CHS
7 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Jan. 16, 2017

Martin Luther
King Jr. Day
NO
SCHOOL!

Jan. 19, 2017

1st Things 1st
Fun Van
@ District Office
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Jan. 19, 2017

Harmon Orch.
Concert
@ Harmon Elem.
6-7:30 p.m.

Jan. 23, 2017

District Spelling
Bee
@ CMS
6-7 p.m.

Jan. 25, 2017

CHS Open
House/Parent
Mtg. @ CHS
6-7 p.m.

Jan. 26, 2017

Ellsworth/CTA
Concert
@ Ellsworth
6-7 p.m.

Jan. 31, 2017

Simonton Orch.
Concert
@ Simonton
6-7:30 p.m.

Feb. 1, 2017

CMS Open
House
@ CMS
6-7:30 p.m.

Feb. 7, 2017

Kinder Round Up
@ Ranch, Harmon,
Ells. & Sim. Elem.
6-7 p.m.

Feb. 9, 2017

Kindergarten
Round Up
@ CTA
6-7 p.m.

Feb. 16, 2017

SciTech Festival
District Wide
@ CHS
6-7 p.m.

J.O. Combs welcomes the community to a variety of events happening around the district. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us!



Combs High School

An AEF™ A+ School of Excellence™



ACADEMICS:

- Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment Courses • Honors Classes
- Art & Physical Education • Foreign Languages (French, German & Spanish)
- Career & Technical Education (Agriculture, Business Mgmt., Digital Photography, Early Childhood, Graphic Design, Journalism, Medical Professions, Software Development, Sports Medicine, TV/Film & Technical Theater) • Music (Band, Choir, Guitar & Orchestra)

PROGRAMS:

- After School Tutoring • Award Winning Drama Program • International Travel Opportunities
- Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) • Nine Computer Labs • Free Transportation to EVIT

SPORTS:

- Badminton • Baseball • Basketball (Boys/Girls) • Cross Country (Boys/Girls) • Football
- Golf (Boys/Girls) • Sand Volleyball • Soccer (Boys/Girls) • Softball • Spiritline/Pom
- Swim/Dive (Boys/Girls) • Tennis (Boys/Girls) • Track & Field (Boys/Girls) • Volleyball (Boys/Girls) • Wrestling

STUDENT CLUBS & ACTIVITIES:

- Anime • Art Club (National Art Honor Society) • Athletic Training • AZ Ancient Cultures • Band
- Best Buddies • Choir • Class Clubs (Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior & Senior) • Drama Club
- Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) • Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
- Future Farmers of America (FFA) • Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA)
- Journalism • Magic Club • Math Club • National Honor Society (NHS) • Orchestra
- SkillsUSA • Student Government • Travel Club • Yearbook

TOGETHER WE CAN. TOGETHER WE WILL.

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Combs

J.O. Combs Unified School District

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- Updated Technology
- Building Improvements

